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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT The Shanghai Telephone Company: Its Stations, Equipment,
Code Numbers, Labor Union, Financial Problems and
Officials Still in China

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1. The Shanghai Telephone Company owns and operates the telephone system in Shanghai, with seven machine switching offices and one manual office. [redacted] for example, it served approximately 95 thousand in greater Shanghai. Originally it was a UK firm, called the Shanghai Mutual Telephone Company. In about 1930, it was purchased by a US firm. The equipment was in poor condition and conversion to automatic switching was begun. This was completed in March 1932. Three old stations - East, North, and West - were abandoned and six new, central automatic stations were built, with new equipment. [redacted]

2. The new stations were: Wayside-Ward and Paoting Roads; North-North Kiangse Road; Pokien-460 Pokien Road; West-230 Medhurst Road; Pichon-67 Route Pichon; and Montigny-the rear of this station was on the Boulevard de Montigny, behind the Chinese YMCA. Montigny and West were the two stations with French equipment. There was also the Central Office at 232 Kiangse Road. This station retained old automatic equipment [redacted] specially built as 24 V equipment. Difficulties in inter-working occurred, as all other equipment was 48 V. Finally, there was one old, manual station - the Lucerne Station - which served the "Extra-Settlement" area in west Shanghai. [redacted] it was on Lucerne Road, which was unpaved, off Edinburgh Road. Lucerne had a small satellite, manual station located on the corner of Hung-jao and McLeod Roads. It served the Hung-jao Aerodrome and the Hung-jao residential area. All incoming calls to Lucerne and Hung-jao were automatic, but not within the Lucerne exchange.

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